

By: Eltife

S.B. No. 1555

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT  
2 relating to the regulation of transportation network companies;  
3 requiring an occupational permit.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

5 SECTION 1. Subtitle C, Title 14, Occupations Code, is  
6 amended by adding Chapter 2402 to read as follows:

7 CHAPTER 2402. TRANSPORTATION NETWORK COMPANIES

8 Sec. 2402.001. DEFINITIONS. In this chapter:

9 (1) "Department" means the Texas Department of  
10 Licensing and Regulation.

11 (2) "Transportation network company" means an entity  
12 that:

13 (A) uses a digital network or software  
14 application service to connect passengers to transportation  
15 network services provided by transportation network drivers;

16 (B) does not own, control, operate, or manage  
17 vehicles used to provide transportation network services; and

18 (C) is not a taxicab or for-hire vehicle company.

19 (3) "Transportation network driver" means an  
20 individual who:

21 (A) provides transportation network services  
22 using a motor vehicle that is owned, leased, or otherwise  
23 authorized for use by the individual; and

24 (B) is not a taxicab or for-hire vehicle driver.

1           (4) "Transportation network services" means  
2 transportation of a passenger between points chosen by the  
3 passenger and prearranged with a transportation network driver  
4 through the use of a transportation network company's digital  
5 network or software application. The term includes services  
6 beginning from the acceptance of a request for transportation  
7 received through the transportation network company's digital  
8 network or software application service and terminating when the  
9 passenger exits the transportation network driver's vehicle.

10           Sec. 2402.002. LICENSE REQUIRED. A person may not operate a  
11 transportation network company in this state without obtaining and  
12 maintaining a license issued by the department.

13           SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2015.